

DOOR

Design Guidelines

- D1** Do not alter the character of entrances by either removing historic elements or through the addition of elements for which there is no historic precedent.
- D2** Photographically document architectural features that are slated for reconstruction prior to the removal of any historic fabric
- D3** Use historical, pictorial, and physical documentation when undertaking the reconstruction of a missing entrance or porch feature. If there is not sufficient information to determine the original design, a new design should be prepared that is compatible with the architectural character of the building and the district. Conjectural or falsely-historical designs are not appropriate.
- D4** Use only those replacement doors that duplicate the design, proportion, and arrangement of paneling and glazing of the original.
- D5** Many options for repairing or restoring historic doors yield historically compatible and durable results. Some of these options may be more economical, in the long run, than replacement. All such options should be reviewed before considering the less preferred option of replacing historic doors. If replacement is necessary, then, again, many products exist for economical, compatible replacement doors. These options should be reviewed before a final decision. [In the Clifton Preservation District, the Clifton ARC and Preservation staff will assist residents in reviewing these options.]
- D6** Do not replace historic double leaf doors with a single door.
- D7** Do not alter original openings to accommodate stock doors.
- D8** Install only screen doors or storm doors that are simple with a narrow-frame design that enables the inner door to be seen. Metal screen and storm doors should be painted or finished to match the inner door.
- D9** Install any security bars in such a way that they do not obscure the architectural character of original doors or damage historic fabric. Commercial security grilles should retract out of sight during business hours and preferably be mounted inside the glass. Painting security bars an unobtrusive color is recommended.
- D10** Differentiate between primary and secondary doors, using the detailing of the doors or the articulation of the frame.
- D11** Do not add vestibules to primary facades unless there is a historic precedent. Such additions alter the character, proportion, and massing of the façade.
- D12** Do not create new entrances on facades that can be seen from a public way.
- D13** Replacement of non-original, non-historic doors with new doors that are appropriate to the period and style of the building and are the size of the original opening is recommended.